## **Arkansas Insurance Department**

Asa Hutchinson Governor



Alan McClain Commissioner

**April 9, 2020** 

**BULLETIN 16-2020** 

TO: ALL TITLE INSURERS AND ALL TITLE INSURANCE AGENCIES

DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED

**PARTIES** 

FROM: ARKANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF ON-SITE AUDITS BY TITLE INSURERS

The Arkansas Insurance Commissioner is issuing this Bulletin to assist individuals and entities regulated by the Arkansas Insurance Department as they deal with urgent needs caused by the occurrence of the COVID-19 virus in Arkansas.

The Arkansas Insurance Department is committed to assisting its fellow state agencies, local health departments, emergency managers, and health care providers in providing for the health and welfare of the people of Arkansas.

On March 11, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson issued Executive Order 20-03 declaring a statewide state of emergency in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus among Arkansans. The Order may impact various insurance regulatory statutes so that the Department may effectively render maximum assistance to overcome any potential impediment to the rapid and orderly rendering of assistance to our citizens affected by the virus.

## ON-SITE AUDITS BY TITLE INSURERS SUSPENDED

Recognizing the important public need of limiting in-person contact and travel to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the state, the Commissioner determines that the on-site audits by representatives of title insurers of agencies appointed with the insurer as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 23-103-411(a) is an impediment to the rendering of assistance to our citizens affected by the virus.

Therefore, the Commissioner directs all title insurers regulated by the Department to suspend onsite audits of agencies appointed with the insurer during the 60-day period beginning with the date Executive Order 20-03 was signed. Any questions regarding this Bulletin should be directed to <u>insurance.legal@arkansas.gov</u> at the Arkansas Insurance Department or by phone at (501) 371-2600.

ALAN MCCLAIN

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

STATE OF ARKANSAS

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**April 9, 2020** 

DATE